THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): Immediately after President Musharaf's January 12 announcements, Pakistan Government did take some steps like freezing of assets of Lashkar-e-Toiba and Jaish-e-Mohammad, closing their offices and arrests of several of their activists. However Jaish-e-Mohammad and Lashkar-e-Toiba have vowed to continue their activities in J&K. Terrorist leader based in Pakistan continue their attempts to infiltrate groups of terrorists across the border and exhort the cadres to carry on Jehad.

Progress in Peace Talk at Bangkok

1822. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the achievements of peace talks at Bangkok till date; and

(b) whether ULFA problems have also been brought in the negotiating talks in Bangkok?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) With the cessation of hostilities between NSCN (IM) and security forces, the level of violence has come down substantially. The cease-fire agreement, which was initially for a period of 3 months only with effect from 1st August, 1997, has been operative now for the last four and a half years and has brought about peace in Nagaland and in the adjoining areas. The Peace Talks have helped both sides in understanding and appreciating each other's point of view.

(b) No, Sir.